

# Your Local Citizen Corps: An MRC Coordinator's Best Tool



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MRC National Leadership & Training  
Conference

April 20, 2006

## City of Orlando MRC

- Received federal grant 10/01/2003
- Coordinator Hired 8/03/2004
- Covers Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Brevard and Volusia Counties
- Housed in Office of Emergency Management

# City of Orlando Citizen Corps

- National Best Practice
- Created 06/02
- Council Made of 48 individuals from wide range of organizations

*“To make communities safer, stronger and better prepared, to respond to threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues and disasters of all kinds by engaging individuals in crime prevention, emergency preparedness and response, through education, training and volunteer service.”*

# City of Orlando Citizen Corps

- Four major programs plus the following:
  - Homeland Security Volunteers
  - Neighborhood Emergency Response Plan
  - Senior Links
  - Citizens on Patrol
  - Community Anti Terrorism
- Unique partnership with the American Red Cross

# City of Orlando Citizen Corps

- Quarterly Council meetings
- Council acts as advisory board
- Quarterly HSV meetings
- Quarterly Coordinator meetings

# Orange County Citizen Corps

- Created 06/2003
- Council of 7 County citizens
- By-laws
- Monthly meetings
- Four programs, no additional programs
- No coordinator meetings

# Volusia County Citizen Corps

- Created 06/2005
- Unique partnership through United Way
- Part time coordinator
- Quarterly meetings
- No additional programs
- Four major programs

## Why Partner?

- Very little money!
- Marketing/PR
- Volunteers desiring additional volunteer opportunities
- Already established events



# Partnership with Orlando Citizen Corps

- Natural partnership
- Quarterly presentations at council meetings, HSV meetings
- Attendance at quarterly coordinator meetings
- Attendance at VOAD meetings
- Join planning committee for special events

# Partnership with Orlando Citizen Corps

- Hurricane Mitigation Exercise
- Hazardous Weather Awareness Week
- Mission Possible
- National Night Out

# Hurricane Mitigation Exercise

- Hosted by Universal Studios
- Over 150 community leaders, volunteers and citizens attended
- Mayor, police chief, fire chief
- Media attendance

# Hazardous Weather Awareness Week

- Press Conference to announce City's kickoff of HWAW
- Partnership between City and ARC
- Specific mention of MRC
- MRC display and volunteers present

# Mission Possible

- Just completed Third Annual Mission Possible
- Free Medical Reserve Corps PR
- MRC display

Second Annual

## MISSION POSSIBLE....

## A Community Prepared

**Saturday, November 12, 2005**

City of Orlando Citizen Corps and Medical Reserve Corps are partnering with the American Red Cross, Orange County Citizen Corps, and Florida's Blood Centers for the Second Annual Mission Possible: A Community Prepared, which will take place at the Westin Grand Bohemian downtown (325 S. Orange Avenue) on Saturday, November 12 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This is a free public event to get individuals and families trained and ready for a hurricane or other disaster through five 30-minute interactive presentations. Participants will get hands-on training in the five disaster preparedness steps:

- 1. Make a plan**
- 2. Build a kit**
- 3. Get trained**
- 4. Volunteer**
- 5. Give Blood**

Sessions begin at 10:00 a.m., 10:40 a.m.,  
11:20 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 12:40 p.m. and 1:20 p.m.  
and last approximately three hours.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by  
contacting Adolfin Ortiz at 321-235-5437  
or [Adolfin.Ortiz@cityoforlando.net](mailto:Adolfin.Ortiz@cityoforlando.net)  
by November 9.



# Mission Possible Pictures



5/2/2





# Third Annual MISSION POSSIBLE... A Community Prepared

**FREE PUBLIC EVENT**  
**Saturday, April 1, 2006**  
**10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

City of Orlando Citizen Corps and Medical Reserve Corps are partnering with the American Red Cross, and Orange County Citizen Corps, for the *Third Annual Mission Possible... A Community Prepared*, which will take place at the UCF Downtown Campus (36 W. Pine St.). This is a **FREE public event** for individuals and families to receive training and prepare for a hurricane or other disaster through five 20-minute interactive presentations. Participants will receive hands-on training in the five disaster preparedness steps:

1. Make a plan
2. Build a kit
3. Get trained
4. Volunteer
5. Give blood (optional)

Sessions begin at 10 a.m., then every half hour until 1:30 p.m. and last approximately two and one half hours.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by contacting Jennifer Njenga at 407-894-4141 ext.5630 or [jennifern@centralfl-redcross.org](mailto:jennifern@centralfl-redcross.org) by March 27.





**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual**

# **MISSION POSSIBLE...**

## **A Community Prepared**

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## **FREE PUBLIC EVENT**

### **Saturday, April 1, 2006**

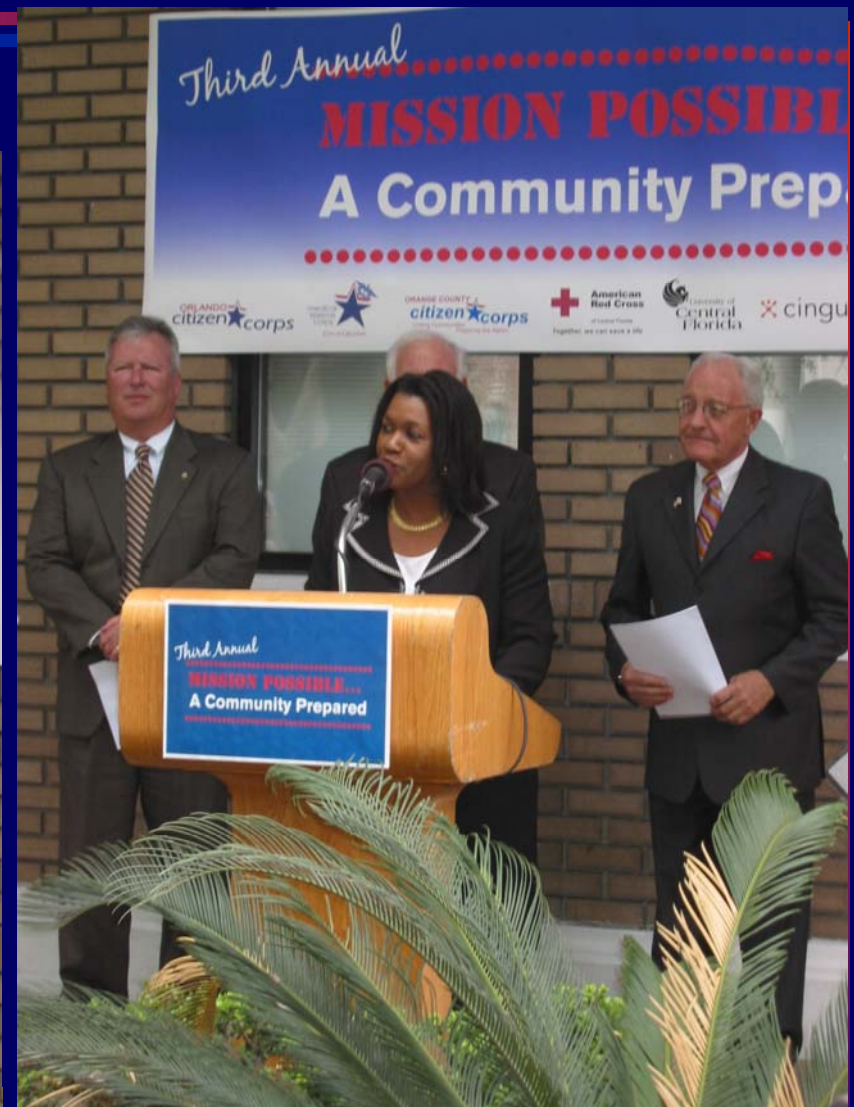
### **10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

This event will take place at the UCF Downtown Campus (36 W. Pine St.). This is a **FREE** Public Event for individuals & families to receive training & prepare for a hurricane or other disaster through five 20-minute interactive presentations. Participants will receive hands-on training in the *Five Disaster Preparedness Steps*:

- 1. Make a Plan**
- 2. Build a Kit**
- 3. Get Trained**
- 4. Volunteer**
- 5. Give Blood (optional)**



Sessions begin at 10 a.m., then every 1/2 hour until 1:30 p.m. & last approximately 2.5 hours. Space is limited, so please RSVP by contacting Jennifer Njenga at 407-894-4141 ext. 5630 or [jennifern@centralfl-redcross.org](mailto:jennifern@centralfl-redcross.org) by March 27, 2006.



# National Night Out

- Sponsored by Neighborhood Watch
- Orlando consistently is nationally recognized for their NNO
- MRC Display at ARC
- Information available at all neighborhoods

# Orange County Citizen Corps

- Participation in monthly meetings
- Bring attention to MRC by partnering with both Orlando and Orange County
- Participation in committee meetings

# Orange County Citizen Corps

- Disaster Preparedness Fair
- H.E.L.Ps Expo
- Neighborhood Emergency Response Plans
- Neighborhood Presentations

# Disaster Preparedness Fair

- Paid for by Orange County Citizen Corps
- Free MRC booth
- Chance to present MRC to citizens
- Skit on how programs work together
- Media coverage on local tv station

# HELPS Exhibition

- Hurricane Exhibition for Learning, Preparedness and Safety
- Free booth for three day event
- Free to public
- Two speaking opportunities

# NERPs

- Neighborhood Emergency Response Plan
- Medical Reserve Corps members listed as resource
- The more volunteers involved in NERP, more grant money available



# Neighborhood Presentations

- Orange County Citizen Corps philosophy of educating one neighborhood at a time
- Numerous community presentations set up by OCCC

# Volusia County Citizen Corps

- New Citizen Corps Council
- Quarterly meetings
- Presentation at each meeting
- Volunteer Recruitment Fair
- Radio Spot

# Radio Spot

WHEN IT COMES TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES, WHO'S RESPONSIBLE? OUR GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING OUR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS, DO A FANTASTIC JOB BUT THEY CAN'T DO IT ALONE. THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN. THE VOLUSIA COUNTY CITIZEN CORPS IS AN ORGANIZATION OF YOUR NEIGHBORS WHO VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE GROUPS TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER, STRONGER AND BETTER PREPARED. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE VOLUSIA COUNTY CITIZEN CORPS PLEASE VISIT US AT THE RIVERSIDE PAVILLION IN PORT ORANGE APRIL 10th, 2006. ON HAND WILL BE CITIZENS JUST LIKE YOU TO EXPLAIN HOW YOU CAN TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY. SEE THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM, **THE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS**, USA ON WATCH, VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE AND OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY VOLUNTEER GROUPS. REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE PUTTING ON DEMONSTRATIONS AND ANSWERING QUESTIONS ALL DAY. NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED IN KEEPING AMERICA SAFE AND STRONG. REMEMBER, THAT'S APRIL 10th, FROM 10 AM TILL 4 PM AT THE RIVERSIDE PAVILLION IN PORT ORANGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: RAY "ROCKY" SIRACUSA AT 386-253-0563 EXTENSION 247, e-mail [rsiracusa-uwvf@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rsiracusa-uwvf@cfl.rr.com), OR VISIT THE CITIZEN CORP website AT [volusiacitizencorps.org](http://volusiacitizencorps.org).

# Seminole County Citizen Corps

- Planning group to create new Citizen Corps Council
- Brainstorming ideas of how to promote programs through Citizen Corps

# American Red Cross

- Strong relationship built through Citizen Corps
- Now working with ARC for pandemic flu planning
- Red Cross volunteers to be deployed as MRC volunteers if plan is implemented
- New events in works

# CAT Eyes Training

- Community Anti-terrorism Training
- Partnership between Orlando and Orange County Citizen Corps
- Utilizing interested MRC volunteers to train 5,000 Orlando Citizens
- Information given on MRC at each training

## Citizen Corps involvement gives....

- Free PR
- Free involvement in planned activities
- Ability to educate community leaders
- Ability to educate neighborhoods
- Accessibility to additional funding!

For additional information

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